

## **Claims**

1. A method of printing a print job from a device outside a firewall at an imaging device behind a firewall comprising:
  - 5 sending a print job to a print job rendezvous point outside the firewall;
  - polling the print job rendezvous point using a polling device within the firewall;
  - 10 downloading the print job from the print job rendezvous point;
  - routing the print job to an imaging device within the firewall; and
  - creating an image at the imaging device from the print job.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the print job rendezvous point is identified by universal resource location (URL).
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising encrypting the print job.
- 15 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  - encrypting the print job; and
  - decrypting the print job before creating the image at the imaging device.
- 20 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the sending the print job to the job rendezvous point and downloading the print job from the print job rendezvous point uses a secure protocol.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the secure protocol is a secure sockets layer (SSL) protocol.
- 25 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the sending the print job to the job rendezvous point and downloading the print job from the print job rendezvous point uses file transfer protocol (FTP).

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8. The method of claim 1 wherein sending a print job to a print job rendezvous point includes the step of posting the print job to a network service addressed by a universal resource location.
- 5 9. The method of claim 1 wherein an imaging device attached to a network behind a firewall polls the rendezvous point.
10. A system for handling a print job comprising:  
a network further comprising:  
10 an imaging device attached to the network; and  
another device attached to the network;  
a firewall positioned with respect to the network to reduce the risk of undesirable access to the network from locations outside the network;  
a rendezvous point positioned outside to the firewall, wherein one of the  
15 imaging device or another device polls the rendezvous point to determine if a print job is located at the rendezvous point.
11. The system of claim 10 further comprising an apparatus for transmitting the print job from the rendezvous point into the network and providing the print job to  
20 the imaging apparatus on the network.
12. The system of claim 10 wherein the imaging apparatus includes an embedded web server.
- 25 13. The system of claim 10 wherein the rendezvous point is specified by a universal resource location (URL).
14. The system of claim 11 wherein the apparatus for transmitting the print job from the rendezvous point into the network uses a secure protocol.
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15. The system of claim 14 wherein the secure protocol is secure hypertext transfer protocol (HTTPS).

16. The system of claim 14 wherein the secure protocol is secure socket layer (SSL) protocol.

17. The system of claim 10 wherein the one of the imaging device or another device polls the rendezvous point periodically.

18. An imaging apparatus comprising:  
a processor;  
a storage device; and  
software operable on the processor to:  
poll a rendezvous point;  
detect the presence of a print job at the rendezvous point; and  
initiate transmission of the print job from the rendezvous point to the imaging apparatus; and  
form an image from the information in the print job.

19. The imaging apparatus of claim 18 wherein the software is further operable on the processor to  
decrypt the image of a copy of an original document using a public key of a person sending the document; and  
print a copy of the image original document at the system of the recipient.

20. The imaging apparatus of claim 18 wherein the storage device stores an image of the original document until an indication that the transmitted document is received.

21. The imaging apparatus of claim 18 wherein the software is further operable on the processor to poll an other imaging apparatus to which the image of the original document is transmitted to determine if the other imaging device is enabled to receive the transmission of the original document.

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22. A system for handling a print job comprising:

a first network further comprising:

an imaging device attached to the first network; and

another device attached to the first network;

10 a second network, the first network coupled to the second network;

a firewall positioned between the first network and the second network, the firewall for reducing the risk of undesirable access to the first network via the second network;

15 a rendezvous point positioned outside to the firewall, wherein one of the imaging device or another device polls the rendezvous point to determine if a print job is located at the rendezvous point.

23. The system of claim 22 the print job is placed at the rendezvous point using a secure protocol.

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24. The system of claim 22 further comprising:

a first secure channel between the first network and the rendezvous point;

and

25 a second secure channel between the second network and the rendezvous point.

25. A computer-readable medium having a program available thereon for causing a suitably programmed information-handling system to transport files between a rendezvous point and an imaging device protected by a firewall by

performing the following when the program is executed on the information-handling system:

- check the rendezvous point;
- detect the presence of a file at the rendezvous point; and
- 5 initiate a secure transmission of the file from the rendezvous point to a device within the firewall.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 25 wherein the file is a print job and wherein the device is an imaging apparatus, the program further capable of  
10 routing the print job to the imaging apparatus; and  
forming an image from the information in the print job.

27. A computer-readable medium having a program available thereon for causing a suitably programmed information-handling system to perform the following when the program is executed on the information-handling system:  
15 detects the presence of a print job; and  
posts the print job at a selected rendezvous point.

28. The computer-readable medium of claim 27 wherein the program further causes a suitably programmed information-handling system to initiate a secure  
20 transmission of the print job to the selected rendezvous point from a device within a firewall when the program is executed on the information-handling system.

29. A computer-readable medium having a program available thereon for causing a suitably programmed information-handling system to perform the  
25 following when the program is executed on the information-handling system:  
poll a rendezvous point; and  
detect the presence of a print job at the rendezvous point.

30. The computer-readable medium of claim 29 wherein the program further  
30 causes a suitably programmed information-handling system to initiate a secure  
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transmission of the print job from the rendezvous point to a device within a firewall when the program is executed on the information-handling system.

31. The computer-readable medium of claim 30 wherein the program further  
5 causes a suitably programmed information-handling system to:

route the print job to an imaging apparatus; and

form an image from the information in the print job, when the program is  
executed on the information-handling system.

10 32. A system for handling a print job comprising:  
means for posting the print job at a selected rendezvous point; and  
means for detecting the presence of a print job at the rendezvous point.

33. The system for handling a print job of claim 32 wherein means for posting  
15 the print job at a selected rendezvous point posts the print job outside a firewall.

34. The system for handling a print job of claim 32 further comprising means for  
initiating a secure transmission of the print job to the selected rendezvous point  
from a device within a firewall.

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34. The system for handling a print job of claim 32 further comprising means for  
initiating a secure transmission of the print job to retrieve the print job from the  
selected rendezvous point with a device within a firewall.

25 35. The system for handling a print job of claim 32 further comprising means for  
means for polling a selected rendezvous point.